Hower Ler

Seattle Animal Shelter Newsletter

www.cityofseattle.net/rca/animal/

Summer Issue

2000



Ist Annual Furry 5K Raises \$30,000 for the Help the Animals Fund



Participants line up at the starting line for the 1st Annual Furry 5K race.

First the countdown.

Then the crack of the starting gun. And they were off!

...And thus more than 1500 humans, and almost that many dogs, began their trek around Seward Park at the Seattle Animal Shelter's first Annual Furry 5K Fun Run held June 11.

The participants did not let a little rain discourage them from completing the three mile run around Seward Park. For those not inclined to run, the event offered a one mile course along Lake Washington Boulevard.

"It was great to see so many people and so many dogs come out to support the shelter," said one volunteer. "And I love that the first three finishers in both the men's and women's divisions were running with their dogs."

The Furry 5K is one of the few road races in Seattle which allows runners to bring their dogs, and the opportunity to do so clearly pleased many of the participants.

But it was clear that most people were there to support the Shelter. All proceeds from the race -which are expected to exceed \$30,000 -- benefit the Shelter's Help the Animals Fund, which helps pay for veterinary care for sick and injured shelter animals. With the support of the Help the Animals Fund, the Shelter has been able to provide necessary veterinary care for hundreds of animals.

Seattle City Councilmember Jan Drago was one of the participants. "The Furry 5K Fun Run is a wonderful way that the community can support the Seattle Animal Shelter and its animals," she said. "I'm especially pleased that the animal shelter is moving toward one day becoming a 'no-kill' shelter, in which no adoptable animal is ever put to death. This event is a great way to remind people that love and affection await them in the form of a dog or cat waiting to be rescued."

The Furry 5K could not have happened without the support of its wonderful sponsors and volunteers. Dozens of volunteers from the Shelter spent countless hours planning and promoting the event, and on race day 130 volunteers made sure everything ran smoothly. A volunteer summed up the general feeling: "Although we all worked really hard and are pretty tired, it was definitely worth it."



Based on the success of this year's race, it looks like the Furry 5K will become an annual event. According to Don Jordan, the Shelter's director, "I have received numerous phone calls this week from people who said they had a fabulous time and are looking forward to next year's event."

Councilmember Jan Drago with shelter dog Duke.



Letter from the Top Dog

by Donald E. Jordan

Seattle Animal Shelter Volunteers Awarded Humanitarian Of The Year

On June 2, 2000, Seattle Animal Shelter Volunteers Anne Treadwell and Christine Titus were presented with the "Jeanne Werner Humanitarian of the Year Award" at the annual meeting of the Washington State Federation of Animal Care and Control Agencies. This marks the first time the award has been issued and sponsors plan to issue the award annually.

I couldn't imagine any two other people who deserve this award more. These two individuals have helped the Seattle Animal Shelter grow from six volunteers in 1997 to more than 400 volunteers in 2000.

They have developed and help manage more than 20 new animal welfare programs and have been active in raising tens of thousands of dollars for veterinary care for the animals, all of which helped the shelter see a 49 percent increase in the number of animals adopted during 1999.

Doggy Diaries

Friday, 3/3 1/00, was one of the best days of my life. I adopted the world's greatest dog from you, her name was Tiger (it's now been changed to Honey) and I wanted to let you know how impressed I was with the service and staff there. You all helped me to make a good choice, and I have been telling everyone I meet when I am out with Honey how great the staff and animals are at the Shelter. Thanks again for giving me a best friend for life, and for letting her go to a responsible, loving home.



Kitty Diaries

Dear Arlene-



Thanks so much for all you did to find us two loving kittens. Koala and Mango have been such wonderful additions to our lives. They still play like crazy, sleep curled up together, and come to us for their cuddle times. We just love them!

Thanks again, Alexis, Ben, Mango & Koala

This new award, named after Jeanne Werner, the former executive director of the Tacoma/Pierce County Humane Society for 32 years, is intended to recognize individuals in the state of Washington who have made significant contributions to improving animal welfare in our communities. Jeanne Werner was an active member in the animal welfare industry on a local, national and international basis.

I wish to extend a personal note of thanks to Anne, Christine and the rest of our volunteers for all that you do for the animals. You should all feel proud of the contributions that each of you have made in improving the lives of animals in Seattle.

Anne Treadwell and Christine Titus with Coco and Missy.



Mark Your Calendar

"Dog Days Of Summer" Adoption Day at Greenlake

Seattle's Animal Shelter will offer dogs for adoption at "Dog Days Of Summer," Sunday, August 20th, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Green Lake, across from the Bathhouse Theater on the northwest side of the lake. "This is a great opportunity for potential adopters to come and see some of the wonderful pets we have for adoption in a natural setting," says Don Jordan, Manager of Seattle Animal Control. "We will have at least thirty dogs on hand, many of which were rescued by Seattle Animal Shelter volunteers from area shelters.

"Dog Days Of Summer" will feature informational booths, vendors from animal welfare organizations, and more. Families will be able to view these animals in a calm, outdoor setting. Adoption counselors will be on site to answer questions and to help families choose the right pet. There will also be a blanket and towel drive to collect vour extra blankets and towels for the shelter.

In case of rain, the event will be postponed to the following Sunday, August 27th at the same location. Due to overwhelming interest from the community, Seattle Animal Shelter will host one other adoption day at Greenlake this summer. "Dog Days Of Summer" will happen the third Sunday of September, same time and location.



Therapists were on-site for humans & canines!



Furry 5K Sponsor Mike Duffield of PeopleSoft/Maddie's Fund with volunteers Alan Ward, Anne Treadwell,





shelter dogs Coco and Missy.

Place Winner Dave Westlake.



Snapshots

The Furry 5K team.



When does this race start?

Adria Vandra and her dog won 1st Place in the Womens' Division.



Overall Males

John O'hearn 16:20 Dave Westlake 16:37 John Berta 16:38

First Male Master Steven Yee 19:36

Overall Females

Adria Vandra 19:51 Lila Silverson 20:29 Laura Ichikawa 20:35

First Female Master Julie W. Myhre 21:22



John O'hearn and his dog won 1st Place in the Men's Division.

The Seattle Animal Shelter would like to thank the following Sponsors for their generous support:

♦ Maddie's Fund/People Soft ♦ DDB Advertising

♦ PetPlace.com

♦ KLSY

Pyramid Ales

And Special Thanks to:

Aetna **Bark Natural Pet Food** Northern Life Insurance **DogPaws** lams COLA Noah's Bagels

FC Bloxom Company **Pepsi**

KUBE

Despite rainy weather over 1,500 people participated in the event.

The Mountain A Contemporary Theatre

Northwest Runner Sweet Petula Soaps & Herbal Bath Products Brent Birdenbach, Q13 Weekend Sports Anchor Give the Dog a Bone Optiva/Sonicare Carmelittas Serafina **DogWise** Foot Zone Seattle Art Museum

WB22 Amtrak petshelter.net

Pacific Northwest Ballet

Cafe Flora Next to Nature **KAVU Outdoor Clothing**

This event was made possible by the hard work of many volunteers and staff. We would like to especially recognize the Race Directors Norm Lee and Irene VanNostrand, and Volunteers Christine Titus and Alan Ward. Great job, everyone! And last, but not least, thank you to the 1,500+ participants who helped raise over \$30,000 for the Help the Animals Fund!

Employee of the Quarter



Seattle Animal Shelter's very own employee Jacqueline Stough was nominated by several of her peers, and for notable reasons not only staff can attest to, but also the customers she helps everyday at the shelter.

Jacqueline is known at the shelter for her sincere willingness

to offer her services whenever she can. Her sense of urgency to a customer's or fellow employee's need is refreshing. She unselfishly pitches in to help get the job done even if it's not directly related to her work. Her character is such that you will rarely ever see her without a smile on her face, a pleasant greeting for someone, or a simple, happy nod in passing. Even the animals get to know Jacqueline as she passes by the cages talking to them (she recently became the proud parent of two shelter parakeets!) When it comes to employee reflecting upon Jacqueline, it can be surely said that she is very well liked, and for her positive contributions.

Seattle Animal Control Wins the "Seattle Works Award"

On June 1st, the entire Seattle Animal Control staff were awarded the prestigious "Seattle Works Award" for outstanding public service by Seattle City Councilmember Jan Drago.



Back Row (L-R): Gary Samuels, Tim Rollins, Don Jordan, Denise Wells; 3rd Row (L-R): Jacqueline Stough, Jay Miller, Sue Adams, Mary Ellen Zoulas, Virginia Dalton, Rachel Leahy, Reine Komotios, Carlis Norvell; 2nd Row (L-R): Al Rechterman, Kim Cline, Jenny Chance, Kimberly Wilson, Robin Klunder, Kim Webb, Mei Fu Hong, Mitch Schwamberg; Front Row (L-R): Mel Tangborn, John Megow, Steve Couvion, Don Baxter, Tracy Cobbin, Sandy Williams, Dave Goldberg (Not pictured: Lisa Hawthorne, Eileen McKenzie, Adam Parascondola)

Pet License Applications Cover the City!

Have you ever found yourself wanting to enroll your beloved Tippy in a program that will help identify him in case he were lost? Well, now it will be even easier to get the information you need to do just that. If you live in the City of Seattle, it's as easy as a trip to your local veterinarian, library, community center, or mini city hall for the application. Pet license applications will soon to be available in local pet stores and city parks, too.

Seattle Pet Licensing's goal is to help identify owned pets in the community so that identification is clear and pets like Tippy can return home as soon as possible. That little silver tag can help save the owner a lot of worry if a pet becomes lost. Countless citizens call Seattle Pet Licensing daily to report finding someone's lost pet, and from there, all it takes is a simple phone call to the owner and the connection is made! Today we have over 45,000 cats and dogs proudly wearing their Seattle Pet License tag.

Licensing your pet is easy and inexpensive, and it insures your pet's speedy return home. So the next time you're out in the neighborhood taking a walk with your pet, stop by any of the above-mentioned locations for an application and begin your pet's life-long commitment to being part of an important and successful program. Your pet will thank you!

Adoptathon 2000—Most Successful Adoptathon Ever!

Without reducing adoption fees the shelter adopted out 23 cats and 33 dogs at Adoptahon 2000. Approximately 35 dogs and 90 cats were brought to the shelter that day foster care homes,

and SAS volunteers brought dogs and cats from other area shelters. Fifty-five dogs were groomed for the event thanks to our volunteers. Fifty volunteers worked the event as well as animal control commissioners and shelter staff. Over 500 people visited the shelter during the event. Staff had a ball! Pictured here is Supervisor Al Rechterman getting dunked! Along with many pets finding great new homes, approximately \$700 was raised for the Help the Animals Fund.



Seattle Animal Shelter becomes Leader for the Community– Staff and Volunteers Offer Relief to Needy Shelters

By Amanda Boyd, Team Leader

Our mission was clear. Five healthy, adoptable dogs housed at Shelton Animal Shelter were scheduled to be euthanized due to space constraints. The shelter, responsible for housing all stray and surrendered animals in the City of Shelton, has only a handful of kennels and a shortage of people wanting to adopt. Since Seattle Animal Control (SAC) had



Becky, Arlene, Wynn and Amanda with Ebony

the space, Animal Care Supervisor Virginia Dalton authorized a rescue. On a rainy Sunday, Kennel Officer Sue Adams and I took a truck down to Shelton and rescued Ebony, Echo, Murray, Sarah, and Toby one day before they were scheduled to be put to sleep. In the past few weeks, all five have been adopted into loving homes!

The Shelton rescue was not the first of its kind. For the past few years, SAC has been transporting dogs from other shelters on a case-by-case basis when space is available, often before a big special event, such as the annual Adoptathon. In May of this year, a group of four volunteers—Wynn Kerr, Arlene Ehrlich, Becky Todd and I- banded together to organize rescue missions on a more regular basis. The idea began when Team Leader Wynn Kerr learned that due to severe budget cuts, Bremerton Animal Control (BAC) can no longer house dogs in its shelter facility. A lone volunteer boards dogs at a private kennel and meets with potential adopters by appointment only in a parking lot. All too often she watches friendly, healthy dogs wait out their time only to be put to sleep due to lack of space. Since learning about her plight, our group has made three rescue missions to Bremerton, saving a total of eight dogs. Most recently, Shelton Animal Shelter, BAC volunteers Pat and Jennifer Hickey, and SAC Team Leader Becky Todd worked together to rescue two Spaniel mixes, Sadie and her pregnant sister Chevenne, both of whom were scheduled to be euthanized. Sadie has already been adopted, and on June 17 Chevenne gave birth to nine puppies in her SAC foster home. Cheyenne and her puppies will all be available for adoption at SAC in mid-August.

Four dogs and three cats were also rescued from the Lewis County Animal Shelter in Chehalis, and shelter staff members have made several trips to the Tacoma Humane Society.

It is a wonderful feeling to play a part in directly saving these animals' lives. Because of our high adoption rate and the success of our foster care program, we are able to reach out to shelters in need. We now belong to a network of volunteers and shelter staff across the Puget Sound who are dedicated to working together to save the life of every adoptable animal in Western Washington. Said Tiami Coleburg-Paddock, Adoption Coordinator at BAC, "I will never forget the sight of the line of white SAC vehicles roaring into the dirt parking lot I call my adoption office. The little caravan carried the smiling faces of the SAC rescue squad. Suddenly, I did not feel so alone in the fight to save the lives of these deserving, desperate BAC animals. Thank You SAC!"

For additional information on SAC/BAC/Shelton rescues, and assisting Puget Sound area shelters, please contact SAC volunteer Amanda Boyd at akb@stanfordalumni.org or (206) 782-6708.

Your Car is an Oven!

by Kristin Stark, The Pet Planet Newsletter

Everyone knows that the inside of a car on a hot summer day can be lethal. But Fido needs you to know more than that to keep him safe in the deadly sun. Days above 90 degrees, especially with high humidity, are inherently



dangerous for your pet. Humidity interferes with an animal's ability to rid itself of excess body heat. When we overheat, we sweat; and when the sweat dries, it takes excess heat with it. Our four-legged friends only perspire around their paws, which is not enough to cool the body. To rid themselves of excess heat, animals pant. Air moves through the nasal passages, which picks up excess heat from the body. As it is expelled through the mouth, the extra heat leaves along with it. Although this is a very efficient way to control body heat, it is severely limiting in areas of high humidity or when the animal is in close quarters.

The shape of an animal's nasal passages can contribute to a tendency to overheat. Brachiocephalic (pug-nosed) dogs are more prone to heatstroke because their nasal passages are smaller, and it's more difficult for them to circulate sufficient air for cooling. Overweight dogs are also more prone to overheating because their extra layers of fat act as insulation, which traps heat in their bodies and restricts their breathing capabilities. Age can also be a factor in an animal's tendency to overheat: very young animals may not have a fully developed temperature regulating system, and older pets' organ systems may not be functioning at 100 percent, leaving them prone to heat-related damage. Cats are generally better at regulating their body temperatures and avoiding overheating in the first place. But don't be fooled--without appropriate shelter and water, they too can overheat. Cracking the windows doesn't cut it.

So where are the danger zones? The most obvious is your car: It can become a death trap even on a mild sunny day and can insidiously raise the car's temperature to well above 120 degrees! Never, ever leave your pet inside the car. If Fido can't come with you when you get out of the car, leave him at home.

What are some other dangerous situations for your pets? Leaving animals outdoors without shelter is just as dangerous as leaving them inside a hot car. Be sure they are not left in a cage in the hot sun, on a chain in the backyard, or outdoors in a run without sufficient shade or air circulation. Their lives are in your hands.

Heatstroke is a medical emergency. If you suspect your pet has heatstroke, you must act quickly and calmly. Have someone call a veterinarian immediately. In the meantime, lower your pet's body temperature by applying towels soaked in cool water to the hairless areas of the body. Often the pet will respond after a few minutes of cooling, only to falter again, with his temperature soaring back up or falling to well below what is normal. With this in mind, remember that is imperative to get the animal to a veterinarian immediately. Once your pet is in the veterinarian's care, treatment may include further cooling techniques, intravenous fluid therapy to counter shock, or medication to prevent or reverse brain damage.

Even with emergency treatment, heatstroke can be fatal. The best cure is prevention, and Fido and Fluffy are relying on you to keep them out of harm's way. Summer does not have to be fraught with peril--with ample precaution, both you and your furry friends can enjoy those long, hot, dog days of summer.

Signs of Heatstroke

- Panting
- High fever
- Staring
- · Rapid heartbeat
- Anxious expression
- · Refusal to obey commands
- Warm, dry skin
- Collapse
- Vomiting

Leave a Legacy

Many generous individuals donate time, talent, and financial support to the animals at Seattle Animal Shelter (SAS). Most people think of making donations as something they can do only during their lifetimes. Leaving a gift in your will is a simple and powerful way to continue your support for SAS.

Seattle Animal Shelter and other non-profits have joined the Leave A Legacy of Western Washington (LALWW) campaign to encourage donors to support nonprofit organizations through wills or by designating non-profits as beneficiaries of insurance policies, retirement plans, securities accounts, or other assets. Even small bequests can combine to build funds that will generate support for a cause for years to come. Such gifts may also provide substantial estate and income tax savings.

Unless otherwise designated, gifts made to the Seattle Animal Shelter will go directly to the Help the Animals Fund, which pays for veterinary costs to rehabilitate homeless animals who are sick or injured. Rehabilitation is key to finding new homes for the hundreds of cats, dogs, and other animals that pass through the shelter. Other gift funds include the Spay/Neuter Clinic, which covers surgeries for animals from low-income households, and the Off-Leash Fund, which supports maintenance of Seattle's off-leash areas.

You can make a difference!

Only 40% of those who pass away have wills. By creating a will, you can determine what happens to your assets and make a positive impact on the future. Talk to your professional advisor for help; s/he can make sure you are getting the maximum tax and legal advantages allowed for your gift. LALWW also provides referrals and resources, including a list of questions to ask prospective advisors.

To find out more about leaving a gift for the Seattle Animal Shelter, call Seattle Animal Shelter Director Don Jordan at (206) 386-4254. For more information about Leave A Legacy of Western Washington, contact Campaign Director Laurie Merwin at (206) 285-6237, LALWW@aol.com or visit the website at www.leavelegacy.org.

SHELTER NEWS A

Shelter Update

by Virginia Dalton, Shelter Supervisor

It has been a busy spring season here at the shelter. In May we held our 5th annual Adoptathon. In preparation for the big event, we traveled to several other shelters in the Northwest to rescue animals that would otherwise be euthanized. Volunteers and staff alike traveled to Shelton, Bremerton, Tacoma and Everett to bring back more animals for the big day. Many of them were adopted as soon as they arrived, so second trips were made to some of the shelters! All of the animals rescued were adopted out, and most of our shelter and foster animals as well. Every one of the staff and volunteers worked their tails off, resulting in one of the smoothest running Adoptathons yet!

This month we completed our new cat isolation wing. This has made such a big difference to those kitties that are sick and awaiting foster homes. Our "9-lives" volunteer group spends numerous hours there tending to their needs. They prepare them special meals and keep them going with love and care. In addition, our foster team leaders managed to come up with so many wonderful foster parents to take the sick kitties home to continue to recover. With their pictures being put on the web site, most are quickly adopted! The whole process involves so many caring staff and volunteers, and all share in the rewarding experience when they find homes.

Our summer will start off with "Dog Days of Summer," our annual adoption day at Greenlake (previously named "Pooches in the Park"), to be held the third Sundays of July, August and September. We are again looking for foster homes for some of the dogs that we plan to rescue from other shelters as well as for some shelter dogs that will be neutered prior to the event. (These dogs need a home in which to recover for several days before returning for the event). This might be a great "trial run" for anyone who has considered fostering, but has vacation plans, etc.

I know that this is going to be our best summer ever for adoptions at the shelter! Everyone is working so hard to get homes for all these animals. If you have considered adopting, or have only one or two pets...(or if you just want to "liven up" your home a little) come see us or check out the animals on the petshelter web site!

Seattle Animal Shelter Introduces New Program: 'Senior Cats For Senior Citizens'

Senior citizens can adopt older cats at 50 percent discount The Seattle Animal Shelter has teamed up with the Mayor's Office for Senior Citizens to provide another benefit to seniors who have the "Senior Gold Card for Healthy Aging." Effective immediately, anyone age 60 or older is eligible for a 50 percent discount on the adoption fees for any Seattle Animal Shelter cat 2 years of age or older.

"The Gold Card is an important resource for Seattle's senior citizens and is Seattle's way of making life a little easier for these folks," says Mayor Paul Schell. "The card offers many benefits, and expands seniors' opportunities to access health and nutrition programs. Now we've expanded the program further to provide low-cost adoptions of 'senior' cats."

"Adult shelter cats make great companion pets," says Councilmember Jan Drago. "They've usually been house trained and have socialized with people and other animals, so they're easier to handle than a kitten. Relatively speaking, cats are also much easier to care for than other animals. This program is a winner for both seniors and animals."

Seniors can pick up a Gold Card at any of the 13 Neighborhood Service Centers; at the Mayor's Office for Senior Citizens, located on the second floor of the Alaska Building at 618 2nd Ave.; and at the Seattle Animal Shelter, located at 2061-15th Ave. W., approximately one mile south of the Ballard Bridge. For more information on the Gold Card program, visit this site on Seattle Web: http://cityofseattle.net/seattle/hsd/news/goldcard.htm

More Reasons to Adopt an Older Cat

- ➤ They seek comfortable places
- > They have 8 lives left
- An hour of play goes a long way
- > Sleeping is their preferred activity
- > They are very wise
- > Your dog may learn who is boss
- They know a good thing when they see it
- The older they are, the more they appreciate you

This time of year, SAC and other shelters are awash with kittens, which leaves adult cats languishing in kennels waiting for adoption. Please help us help the adult cats. You can do this by spreading the word that adult cats are great, making a donation to Help the Animals Fund, volunteering at SAC, and, of course, adopting an adult cat.

Help Us Save the Animals!

Included in this edition of the Howler is a donation envelope for you to use when considering making a donation to one of the Seattle Animal Shelter's animal welfare funds. Your donations help support the following programs:

"Help The Animals Fund"
"Off-Leash Area Fund"
"Pet Population Control Fund"

For more information, please refer to the donation envelope included in this newsletter.

Foster Homes Needed!

Foster a homeless dog, puppy, cat or kitten!
Shelter volunteers raise money for vet care...all you provide is your home and lots of love!
Call (206) 615-0737.